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[www.ashbrook-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.ashbrook-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Ms G Smith

X account - @Ashbrookjunior

20 September 2024

RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY CREATIVITY KINDNESS ASPIRATION EQUALITY

### Diary Dates

- 23 September 2024 - Harvest Festival
- 26 September 2024 - Summer Fayre
- 27 September 2024 - MacMillan Coffee morning
- 1 October 2024 - Individual School photos
- 2 October 2024 - Parent/carer Evening
- 3 October 2024 - Parent/Carer Evening
- 4 October 2024 - Inset Day - Children do not attend
- 10 October 2024 - Mental Health Awareness Day - Children to wear yellow.

#### Harvest Festival

On Monday 23 September 2024, all children have been invited to the Borrowash Methodist Church to celebrate Harvest.

Children have prepared a song, poem or reading that they will perform whilst at the church.

Unfortunately, as the whole school have been asked to attend, the church will be full, so we ask parents/carers to look out for videos and pictures on Class Dojo.

Good afternoon!

We have had another wonderful week in school. The Year 5s were a credit yesterday, helping the Year 3s on their 'residential experience'. We are very much looking forward to camping tonight. I am sure you will join me in thanking the staff who have given up their time to ensure your children have these experiences.

The staff have had a particularly busy week with after-school First Aid training into the evening and a staff meeting around provision for all children, led by Mrs Johnstone.

The wonderful values displays are all ready to be put up in the hall - thank you to Jake Osborne for doing this - it's too high for us!!

Voting for Children's Parliament took place this week, ensuring our children are leaders in school and supports the work we do with personal development.

Thank you to Geoff Peel for highlighting that the governing body would love more parents and carers to be represented in school and if this is something you are considering, please let myself or Geoff know and we can tell you more about the role.

Next week is another busy week, with events in and out of school so please keep checking Class Dojo for any updates.

Have a great weekend.

Best Regards

Ms G Smith



#### Safeguarding

It is everyone's responsibility to do something if there are concerns that a child is suffering from or is at risk of significant harm.

The [safeguarding@ashbrook-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ashbrook-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk) email address is monitored throughout the holidays.

If you do have any concerns that a child is at risk of serious harm then contact **Call Derbyshire** on **01629 533190** or visit <http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/startingpoint> or **999**.

Congratulations to **HOROWITZ** class who have achieved the highest attendance for the week ending 20 September 2024.

Congratulations to the following: Francesca M, Leo O, Charlie S, Elma D, Davey J, Amelia T, Jasmine R, Robbie C, Emilio H, Lily H, Esmee P, Teddy D.



### **Summer Fayre**

Our Summer Fayre is taking place on Thursday 26 September 2024. Parents and carers can join us from 2:00pm - 4:00pm in the main school hall.

Children will be selling items that they have made in class and our Wellbeing Group will also have their own stall selling the very popular worry worms.

If you can not attend and your child would like to purchase their item or anything else, they will have the opportunity to walk around with the teachers, so please send them in with some money to do so.

### **Can you help?**

Are you having a clear out? We would love anything that we could use for our Tombola Stall we will be having at our Summer Fayre on Thursday 26 September 2024.

Anything would be very much appreciated. Please drop your items into your child's class or at the school office.

We hope to see as many people as possible at the Summer Fayre.



### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**



On Friday 27 September 2024 we will be holding our annual MacMillan Coffee morning with the help of one of our parents.

This will take place after Living Our School Values Assembly in the main hall. All parents and carers are welcome to attend to raise as much money as possible for such a worthy charity.

If you are able to donate any cakes, baked goods for the event, it would be very much appreciated. If you are able to bake items, please could we ask for a copy of the ingredients to place alongside your baked item. Items can be brought in a few days before the event or the morning of the event.

Please can we remind you that we are A NUT FREE SCHOOL.

### **School Photographs**

On Tuesday 1st October 2024, Tempest Photography will be in school taking individual photos.

If you would like to have a family photo with siblings, please be at Ashbrook Junior School for 8:30am.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to collect or return any children to Ashbrook Infants.



### **Polite Request**

Our children's safety is our utmost priority and we would like to minimize the number of visitors that we have on the school grounds during the day.

To do this, we are asking parents and carers to make sure that children have their lunchbox, PE kits, water bottles and anything else they would need for the day with them in the morning.

PE kits can be kept in school all week and taken home on a Friday.

We kindly request that you only come on to the school grounds during the day if absolutely necessary.

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

**Week ending Friday 20 September 2024**

Our whole school attendance for the week ending Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September is:

**96.5%**

**Illness:**

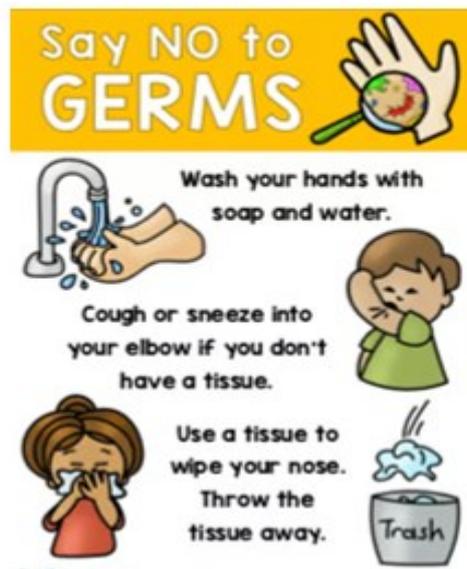
At Ashbrook Junior School we understand that children have illnesses and may be too unwell to attend school.

Our general guidance for sickness continues to be:

- Children should stay at home for 48 hours after the last episode of sickness and diarrhoea. This helps to minimise the spread of any virus to others.
- Children with cough/cold symptoms, that are well enough to do so, can attend school.
- Children unwell with cough and cold symptoms (e.g., temperature) should remain at home until they are well enough to return to school.

**How families can help:**

As we enter a time in the year where seasonal bugs and illnesses are on the rise; families can help us to try and minimise the spread of these illness by continuing to practice good hygiene



### Other reasons for absence

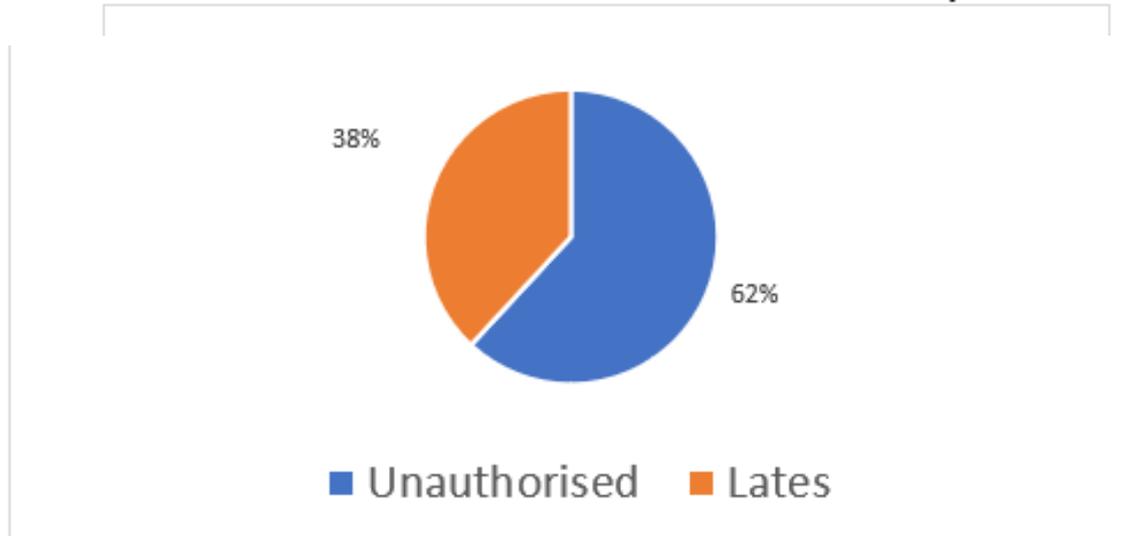
Other reasons for absence so far this year fall under the category of 'unauthorised absences'.

Please remember, the school **cannot** authorise absences for:

- Family holidays during term time
- Days off for birthdays (child and/or other family members)
- Shopping days
- Inset days of siblings at other schools
- Bad weather
- Days off due to feeling tired
- Lateness

Under the new government National Framework for Penalty notices, introduced in August 2024, **any child with unauthorised absences of more than 10 sessions (5 days) in a 10-week period** must be reported to the Local Authority.

### Unauthorised Absences at Ashbrook Juniors – 4 to 20 September 2024



# LUNCHTIME

Autumn Winter  
2024-25:  
2/9, 23/9, 14/10,  
4/11, 25/11,  
16/12, 6/1, 27/1

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



Margherita  
Pizza  
Slice and Wedges

BBQ Cheesy  
Chicken

Roast Gammon,  
Roast Potatoes  
and Gravy

Lasagne

Golden Fish  
Fingers  
and Chips



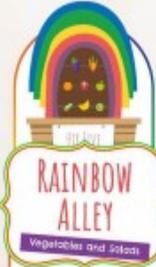
Veggie Pepper and  
Sweetcorn Pizza  
Slice with Wedges

Butterbean  
Ratatouille

Quorn Sausage,  
Roast Potatoes  
and Gravy

Vegetable Lasagne

Veggie Burger and  
Chips



Sweetcorn

Apple Slaw and  
Wholegrain  
Rice

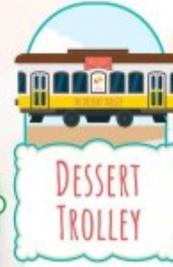
Peas and Carrots

Green Beans

Baked  
Beans



Cheese  
or  
Beans



Toffee Frozen  
Yoghurt

Sweet Potato  
Brownie

Forest Fruits  
Jelly Pots

Cookie Dough  
Apple  
Crumble

Jammy  
Thumbprint  
Biscuits



# The role of the Parent Governor

TRANSFORM TRUST  
"Together we achieve"



## What is involved?

The Department for Education has outlined that the purpose of a governing body is to provide:

- strategic leadership
- accountability and assurance
- strategic engagement

The Local Governing Body (LGB) shares collective responsibility to deliver an excellent education to pupils.

Parent governors play a vital role on our LGBs. They have first-hand experience of the delivery of the curriculum and how the school is perceived which enables them to bring a very different perspective to the strategic leadership of the school. To learn more about the governor role, please watch [this short video](#) from the National Governance Association.

To hear some of our governors talk about their experiences click [here](#).

## Who can become a parent governor?

Any parent can put themselves forward for election/appointment as a parent governor – no experience is necessary. A "parent" includes any person with parental responsibility or who cares for a pupil, student or child at the school, or another Transform Trust school, at the time of their appointment. If a parent at the school cannot be found, a parent of a child of compulsory school age can be appointed by the Trustees.

## Induction and training requirements



Each LGB is allocated a Trust Governance Professional who attends all meetings to ensure the governing body effectively carries out its functions and meets statutory requirements. They are there to support you in your role.

We provide a comprehensive training and support package and our aim is to have knowledgeable and effective governors. All Governors undertake training as follows:

- Induction – a short Loom video introducing the Trust and its overall governance framework this can be accessed [here](#).
- A more formal, online induction course into school governance which can be accessed [here](#). Both these should be viewed/completed before your first meeting as a governor.
- We also offer Safeguarding/data protection/Prevent and other training modules.

All our own training is recorded with presentations, materials and videos being uploaded online to allow you to review them at any time – all designed to improve your governance knowledge.

"I became a governor in my son's school to try and understand more about the processes and practices in place in school and help where I can to improve the learning experience for him and other children. I have found it very welcoming from both Transform and school staff and have learned a lot. Training was handled very well as step by step courses and instructions and ample time given even for a parent who works full time." Mandy Clark – Ravensdale Junior School



To find out more, contact your Headteacher.



## Time commitment



You will be required to allocate time to your voluntary role as a parent governor.

A guideline of the commitment required is:

- Meetings – 6 per academic year, usually between 1-2 hours.
- Monitoring visits – 1 per term, usually between 1-2 hours linked to either a statutory duty or school priority.
- Training – this is flexible but likely to be around 2-4 hours per term.
- Reading and preparing for meetings – approx. 1-2 hours per meeting.

## Paperwork

All governor paperwork is located on an online platform called [GovernorHub](#). Your Governance Professional will create a GovernorHub account and support you with the completion of statutory documentation.



## Achieving the right balance

Achieving a balance between being a parent and a parent governor can sometimes be difficult. Parent governors do not represent the views and concerns of specific parents. The role of a parent governor is the same as any other governor but also includes providing a 'parent's viewpoint'.

Here are some practical ways to help achieve this balance:

- Parent governors are encouraged to express their views in governor meetings.
- Parent governors should promote the interests of all children rather than focusing on their own child.
- Play an active part in meetings and attend governor training.
- Follow the appropriate rules for governor meetings and confidentiality.
- Speak to the Governance Professional who will be able to provide support, advice and guidance.
- It is important that parent governors do not become personally involved in individual parental concerns, instead signpost to appropriate courses of action.
- Declare an interest and withdraw from any discussion where you, a partner or close relative, stands to gain, or where you are so close to a matter discussed it is difficult to be impartial.
- Promote the school within the local community.

**Aim: To deliver appropriate and effective governance which is world class and fit for purpose**